

## CHAPTER 6

### IOWA VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL TUITION GRANT PROGRAM

#### **Overview**

The Iowa Vocational-Technical Tuition Grant Program provides need-based financial assistance to Iowa residents enrolled in career education (vocational-technical), and career option programs at Iowa community colleges. Grants for full-time students range from \$300 to \$1,200, depending on financial need and available funds, and are used to cover tuition and fee charges.

**Date Established:** 1973

**Funding:** The following page provides a summary of Iowa Vocational-Technical Tuition Grant funding.

<b>IOWA VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL TUITION GRANT PROGRAM FUNDING HISTORY</b>			
<b>ACADEMIC YEAR</b>	<b>STATE APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>SSIG/LEAP<sup>1</sup> FUNDS</b>	<b>TOTAL FUNDING</b>
*1974-75	\$40,000	\$24,140	\$64,140
1975-76	\$75,000	\$0	\$75,000
1976-77	\$150,000	\$135,541	\$285,541
1977-78	\$150,000	\$147,794	\$297,794
1978-79	\$350,000	\$331,437	\$681,437
1979-80	\$400,000	\$392,412	\$792,412
1980-81	\$450,000	\$412,628	\$862,628
1981-82	\$429,300	\$414,349	\$843,649
1982-83	\$550,000	\$446,841	\$996,841
1983-84	\$672,472	\$273,586	\$946,058
1984-85	\$672,472	\$468,852	\$1,141,324
1985-86	\$672,472	\$480,050	\$1,152,522
1986-87	\$646,582	\$444,937	\$1,091,519
1987-88	\$645,936	\$427,864	\$1,073,800
1988-89	\$644,294	\$701,978	\$1,346,272
1989-90	\$750,000	\$618,105	\$1,368,105
**1990-91	\$1,330,647	\$367,864	\$1,683,511
1991-92	\$1,315,647	\$341,460	\$1,602,485
1992-93	\$1,235,780	\$463,600	\$1,699,380
1993-94	\$1,385,780	\$322,241	\$1,708,021
1994-95	\$1,424,780	\$339,667	\$1,764,447
1995-96	\$1,424,780	\$275,000	\$1,699,780
1996-97	\$1,608,257	\$136,144	\$1,744,401
1997-98	\$1,875,000	\$292,760	\$2,167,760
1998-99	\$2,244,197	\$0	\$2,244,197
1999-00	\$2,482,400	\$0	\$2,482,400
2000-01	\$2,482,400	\$0	\$2,482,400
***2001-02	\$2,482,400	\$0	\$2,482,400
2002-03	\$2,375,657	\$0	\$2,375,657
****2003-04	\$2,533,115	\$0	\$2,533,155
2004-05	\$2,533,115	\$0	\$2,533,115
2005-06	\$2,533,115	\$0	\$2,533,115
2006-07	\$2,533,115	\$0	\$2,533,115
2007-08	\$2,783,115	\$0	\$2,783,115
*****2008-09	\$2,741,368	\$0	\$2,741,368
*****2009-10	\$2,512,958	\$0	\$2,512,958
2010-11	\$2,413,959	\$0	\$2,413,959
2011-12	\$2,250,185	\$0	\$2,250,185
2012-13	NA	\$0	NA

<sup>1</sup>State Student Incentive Grant Program name changed to Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership Program in 1999.

\*An administrative allowance of \$10,000 was deducted.

\*\*Reduced mid-year to \$1,315,647.

\*\*\*Reduced mid-year to \$2,375,657.

\*\*\*\*Reduced mid-year to \$2,316,266; restored by \$60,000 state reserves to \$2,376,266.

\*\*\*\*\*Reduced mi-year by 1.5%.

\*\*\*\*\*Reduced by 10% due to across the board cut on 10/8/09. Backfill appropriation added \$251,296 on 10/28/09. Appropriation listed includes reduction and backfill.

## A. ELIGIBILITY

### 1. College

To be eligible to participate in the Iowa Vocational-Technical Tuition Grant Program, colleges must be Iowa-supported community colleges. Students attending the following colleges are eligible to receive Iowa Vocational-Technical Tuition Grant awards:

Iowa Vocational-Technical Tuition Grant Participating Colleges <u>Iowa Community Colleges</u>	
Eastern Iowa Community College	Clinton Muscatine Bettendorf
Des Moines Area Community College	Des Moines
Hawkeye Community College	Waterloo
Indian Hills Community College	Ottumwa Centerville
Iowa Central Community College	Fort Dodge
Iowa Lakes Community College	Estherville
Iowa Valley Community College	Ellsworth Marshalltown
Iowa Western Community College	Council Bluffs
Kirkwood Community College	Cedar Rapids
North Iowa Area Community College	Mason City
Northeast Iowa Community College	Calmar Peosta
Northwest Iowa Community College	Sheldon
Southeastern Community College	Burlington
Southwestern Community College	Creston
Western Iowa Tech Community College	Sioux City

### 2. Student

In addition to the general eligibility requirements found in Chapter 1, eligible Iowa Vocational-Technical Tuition Grant recipients must be admitted and in attendance in Vocational-Technical or career option courses of at least 12 weeks in length.

## B. APPLICATION PROCESS

Students must file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as described in Chapter 1.

## **C. SELECTION OF RECIPIENTS**

Eligible students must be enrolled and in attendance in courses of study defined by the Iowa Department of Education as vocational-technical or career option programs. Students who are required to complete arts and science courses as a part of their Vocational-Technical Tuition Grant programs may have these courses included as eligible program courses.

Students who have not yet begun taking core vocational-technical courses are not eligible to receive Iowa Vocational-Technical Tuition Grants, as these students are not currently enrolled and in attendance in vocational-technical or career option programs (guidance established 5/2008).

Students who are enrolled in core Vocational-Technical Tuition Grant courses, and have begun taking those courses, sometimes are enrolled in subsequent semesters during which no official core vocational-technical courses are being attended. These students are making progress toward completion of their vocational-technical programs and will be allowed to receive Iowa Vocational-Technical Tuition Grants (guidance established 5/2008).

Students with Bachelors' degrees may receive Iowa Vocational-Technical Tuition Grants if they enroll in vocational-technical or career options programs at Iowa community colleges.

Grants are awarded to eligible students by college officials. Recipients must be on-time applicants (those meeting the Commission's July 1 priority deadline) whose EFC levels are within the parameters defined by the Commission.

The Application Receipt Date on the student's Institutional Student Information Record (ISIR) MUST indicate that the student met the priority filing deadline.

## D. AWARD AMOUNTS AND LIMITS

The maximum Iowa Vocational-Technical (Voc.-Tech.) Tuition Grant award is \$1,200 for eligible Iowa students who enroll on a full-time basis (minimum of 12 hours per semester or the quarter equivalent).

Eligible full-time students may receive the following Voc.-Tech. Award amounts:

EFC Range	Semester Program Maximum Award			Quarter Program Maximum Award		
	Fall	Winter	Spring	Fall	Winter	Spring
\$1,001 - \$1,100	\$150	N/A	\$150	\$100	\$100	\$100
\$1,101 - \$1,200	\$200	N/A	\$200	\$134	\$133	\$133
\$1,201 - \$1,300	\$250	N/A	\$250	\$167	\$167	\$166
\$1,301 - \$1,400	\$300	N/A	\$300	\$200	\$200	\$200
\$1,401 - \$1,500	\$350	N/A	\$350	\$234	\$233	\$233
\$1,501 - \$1,600	\$400	N/A	\$400	\$267	\$267	\$266
\$1,601 - \$1,700	\$450	N/A	\$450	\$300	\$300	\$300
\$1,701 - \$1,800	\$500	N/A	\$500	\$334	\$333	\$333
\$1,801 - \$1,900	\$550	N/A	\$550	\$367	\$367	\$366
\$1,901 - \$4,600	\$600	N/A	\$600	\$400	\$400	\$400

Eligible students who do not receive the maximum award during the 9-month academic year may receive additional funding for summer (up to the maximum annual award) if funds are available. However, no summer payment may exceed the amount the student would have received for a term during the 9-month academic year.

Iowa Vocational-Technical Tuition Grant awards are tuition-restricted in nature. When awarded in combination with other tuition-restricted funds, total tuition-restricted funding that includes an Iowa Vocational-Technical Tuition Grant cannot exceed total tuition and mandatory fees charged to the recipient. In most cases, the Iowa Vocational-Technical Tuition Grant award is reduced to comply with this policy. For recipients of Chapter 33 veterans education tuition payments, the Iowa Vocational-Technical Tuition Grant award should be applied to tuition and mandatory fees prior to the calculation of the Chapter 33 tuition/fee award (guidance established 6/23/11).

Part-time Voc.-Tech. recipients receive awards based on a prorated portion of the full-time award. The proration is established by the Commission and is consistent with federal Pell Grant Program proration.

The following chart provides the maximum term awards for part-time students:

EFC Range and Hours Enrolled*	Semester Program Maximum Award			Quarter Program Maximum Award		
	Fall	Winter	Spring	Fall	Winter	Spring
<b>\$1,001 - \$1,100</b>		N/A				
1, 2 hours	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
3, 4, 5 hours	\$38		\$37	\$25	\$25	\$25
6, 7, 8 hours	\$75		\$75	\$50	\$50	\$50
9, 10, 11 hours	\$113		\$112	\$75	\$75	\$75
<b>\$1,101 - \$1,200</b>		N/A				
1, 2 hours	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
3, 4, 5 hours	\$50		\$50	\$34	\$33	\$33
6, 7, 8 hours	\$100		\$100	\$67	\$67	\$66
9, 10, 11 hours	\$150		\$150	\$100	\$100	\$100
<b>\$1,201 - \$1,300</b>		N/A				
1, 2 hours	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
3, 4, 5 hours	\$63		\$62	\$42	\$42	\$41
6, 7, 8 hours	\$125		\$125	\$84	\$83	\$83
9, 10, 11 hours	\$188		\$187	\$125	\$125	\$125
<b>\$1,301 - \$1,400</b>		N/A				
1, 2 hours	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
3, 4, 5 hours	\$75		\$75	\$50	\$50	\$50
6, 7, 8 hours	\$150		\$150	\$100	\$100	\$100
9, 10, 11 hours	\$225		\$225	\$150	\$150	\$150
<b>\$1,401 - \$1,500</b>		N/A				
1, 2 hours	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
3, 4, 5 hours	\$88		\$87	\$59	\$58	\$58
6, 7, 8 hours	\$175		\$175	\$117	\$117	\$116
9, 10, 11 hours	\$263		\$262	\$175	\$175	\$175
<b>\$1,501 - \$1,600</b>		N/A				
1, 2 hours	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
3, 4, 5 hours	\$100		\$100	\$67	\$67	\$66
6, 7, 8 hours	\$200		\$200	\$134	\$133	\$133
9, 10, 11 hours	\$300		\$300	\$200	\$200	\$200
<b>\$1,601 - \$1,700</b>		N/A				
1, 2 hours	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
3, 4, 5 hours	\$113		\$112	\$75	\$75	\$75
6, 7, 8 hours	\$225		\$225	\$150	\$150	\$150
9, 10, 11 hours	\$338		\$337	\$225	\$225	\$225
<b>\$1,701 - \$1,800</b>		N/A				
1, 2 hours	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
3, 4, 5 hours	\$125		\$125	\$84	\$83	\$83
6, 7, 8 hours	\$250		\$250	\$167	\$167	\$166
9, 10, 11 hours	\$375		\$375	\$250	\$250	\$250
<b>\$1,801 - \$1,900</b>		N/A				
1, 2 hours	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
3, 4, 5 hours	\$138		\$137	\$92	\$92	\$91
6, 7, 8 hours	\$275		\$275	\$184	\$183	\$183
9, 10, 11 hours	\$413		\$412	\$275	\$275	\$275
<b>\$1,901 - \$4,600</b>		N/A				
1, 2 hours	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
3, 4, 5 hours	\$150		\$150	\$100	\$100	\$100
6, 7, 8 hours	\$300		\$300	\$200	\$200	\$200
9, 10, 11 hours	\$450		\$450	\$300	\$300	\$300

\*1, 2 hours – not eligible  
 3, 4, 5 hours – ¼ of the full award  
 6, 7, 8 hours – ½ of the full award  
 9, 10, 11 hours – ¾ of the full award

In no circumstance may a student receive more than the sum of the annual maximums allowed by law for two consecutive academic years. Full-time students may receive awards during a maximum two-year period of time (8 quarters or 4 semesters plus two summer terms). However, part-time students may attend longer than two years to receive the full benefit.

Examples of Maximum Award Limits:

Academic Years Attended	1 <sup>st</sup> Year Maximum	2 <sup>nd</sup> Year Maximum	Total
2000-01 and 2001-02	\$650	\$650	\$1,300
2001-02 and 2002-03	\$650	\$1,200	\$1,850
2002-03 and 2003-04	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$2,400
2003-04 and 2004-05	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$2,400
2004-05 and 2005-06	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$2,400
2005-06 and 2006-07	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$2,400
2006-07 and 2007-08	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$2,400
2007-08 and 2008-09	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$2,400
2008-09 and 2009-10	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$2,400
2009-10 and 2010-11	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$2,400
2010-11 and 2011-12	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$2,400
2011-12 and 2012-13	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$2,400

## E. AWARD NOTIFICATIONS

College officials should provide award notices to all Iowa Vocational-Technical Tuition Grant recipients. Award notices must clearly indicate award amounts and the state programs from which students will benefit. All notices concerning state grants must include the following award notification statement:

**“In the event that available state funds are insufficient to pay the full amount of each approved grant, the Iowa College Student Aid Commission has the authority to administratively reduce the award.”**

The Commission understands that college officials begin notifying students of award amounts prior to the end of each year's Legislative Session. In order to minimize confusion and limit the workload at colleges and simultaneously be consistent with current legislation regarding award maximums, award notices must include awards at the current statutory maximum.

## **F. RENEWAL ELIGIBILITY**

Applicants may apply for a second year, and in some cases a third year, of Vocational-Technical Tuition Grant awards. Students enrolled in Voc.-Tech. or career options programs and making satisfactory progress toward completion of the program but who are required by the college to take additional courses, including liberal arts classes, to complete the program, may continue to receive Voc.-Tech. awards for up to one additional year of study if they are not able to complete the programs during the normal two-year time frame allowed for students to receive a grant.

If students have received the maximum grant for two years, the students may regain eligibility after a two-year absence from the community college upon reentering a new program major (vocational-technical or career option).

## **G. CHANGES/CORRECTIONS**

Any changes in awards must be provided to Commission staff electronically via the State Scholarship and Grant Reporting System (see Chapter 3).

## **H. VERIFICATION/COMPLIANCE**

College officials are responsible for completing required federal verification procedures and for coordinating all aid to ensure compliance with student eligibility and allowable award amounts.

For students selected for federal verification, disbursements of state-funded student financial aid may be made prior to completing the verification process as long as college or university officials have no reason to believe application information is inaccurate. If students become ineligible for aid due to verification activities, refunds must be made to state-funded programs.